What is Claimed Is:

1. A terminal assembly, comprising

a terminal base having a bore with a internal thread;

a screw having a shank with opposite first and second ends and with an external thread, and having a head on said first end of said shank; and

a deformation in a portion of said external thread adjacent said second end of said shank;

whereby said deformation limits removal of said screw from said bore.

2. A terminal assembly according to claim 1 wherein said deformation comprises a stake in said second end of said shank.

3. A terminal assembly according to claim 2 wherein said second end of said shank is circular; and said shank extends along a chord of said second end.

4. A terminal assembly according to claim 2 wherein said shank is offset from a longitudinal axis of said shank.

5. A terminal assembly according to claim 1 wherein said portion of said external thread forming said deformation has a reduced width between adjacent crests thereof relative to other portions of said external thread.

6. A terminal assembly according to claim 1 wherein a backing plate has a central aperture receiving said shank and is positioned between said head and said terminal base.

7. A terminal assembly according to claim 6 wherein said backing plate comprises a depending tab; and said terminal base comprises an opening slidably receiving said tab.

8. A terminal assembly according to claim 6 wherein said backing plate comprises depending first and second tabs on opposite side edges thereof; and said terminal base comprises first and second openings slidably receiving said first and second tabs, respectively.

4 9. A terminal assembly according to claim 1 wherein said terminal base comprises a contact extending therefrom.

5 10. A terminal assembly according to claim 1 wherein said external thread has an axial length sustaining greater than an axial length of said internal thread.

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~~11~~. A terminal assembly, comprising:

a terminal having a base plate including a bore with an internal thread of a first axial length;

a screw having a shank with opposite first and second ends and with an external thread of a second axial length threadedly mating with said internal thread, and having a head on said first end of said shank, said second end of said shank being planar end circular, said second axial length being substantially greater than said first axial length; and

a stake formed in and extending along a chord of said second end of said shank, said stake creating a deformed portion of said external thread having a reduced width between adjacent crests thereof relative to other portions of said external thread, said deformed portion of said external thread forming a stop which does not threadedly mate with said internal thread.

11 ~~12~~. A terminal assembly according to claim 9 ~~11~~ wherein a backing plate has a central aperture receiving said shank and is positional between said head and said terminal.

12 ~~13~~. A terminal assembly according to claim 11 ~~12~~ wherein said backing plate comprises a depending tab; and said terminal base comprises an opening slidably receiving said tab.

13 14. A terminal assembly according to claim 11 12 wherein said backing plate comprises depending first and second tabs on opposite side edges thereof; and

said terminal base comprises first and second openings slidably receiving said first and second tabs, respectively.

10 15. A terminal assembly according to claim 9 11 wherein said terminal comprises a contact extending from said base plate.

SUB A3 16. A method of forming a terminal assembly comprising the steps of:

threading an external thread of a shank of a screw into a bore in a terminal with an internal thread, the shank having opposite first and second ends with a head at said first end; and

deforming a portion of the external thread adjacent the second end of the shank to limit the amount the screw can be backed out of the bore.

17. A method according to claim 16 wherein said second end is staked along a line extending across the second end and offset from a longitudinal axis of the shank.

15 18. A method according to claim 14 16 wherein said shank is placed within a central aperture of a backing plate before being threaded into the bore.